Water Quality of River Yamuna in Delhi Stretch for April 2, 2002

S. No.	Parameters	Standard values	Actual values			
			Nizamuddin	Agra Canal (Mad anpur Khadar)	Agra Canal (Okhla)	Okha after meeting Shahdara drain
1.	Dissolved Oxygen	5.0 miligram per litre or more	Nil	1.2	Nil	Nil
2.	Bio Chemical Oxygen Demand	3.0 miligram per litre or less	27	16	10	44
3.	Faecal Coliform or less	2500 / 100 mili litre	29,00,000	9,70,000	3,40,000	4,40,00,000

(c) Government started the Yamuna Action Plan in 1993 for cleaning of river Yamuna in Haryana, Delhi and Uttar Pradesh. This project has been completed on 19.2.2003 at a cost of Rs. 668 crore. In addition, the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi has taken up construction of sewage treatment plants and allied sewerage works at 17 locations in Delhi to augment the sewage treatment capacity to 2325 million litres per day by the end of March, 2003 against the present generation of sewage of 3300 million litres per day. The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi is also implementing additional pollution abatement works for augmenting the sewage treatment capacity to meet the gap, refurbishing the sewerage system, providing sewerage system, providing sewerage system in unauthorized/regularized colonies, resettlement colonies and urban villages etc. In addition, 15 common effluent treatment plants are also under different stages of completion to treat the industrial effluents generated from 21 industrial estates.

Depletion of forests due to use of firewood

1755. SHRI S.M. LAL JAN BASHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps to reduce forest depletion due to use of firewood or other traditional wood waste systems;

(b) whether Government have identified wasteful practices in the country which lead to forest depletion;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any step will be taken to afforest large area of the degraded area in the country; and

(e) if so, the details of such forestation programmes being implemented in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) Government have already formulated a National Forestry Action Programme which includes programme for improving forestry productivity through rehabilitation of degraded forests, research and technology development, assisting private initiatives with community participation and reduction of demand on forests by efficient utilisation of fuelwood and extensive bio-mass plantations.

(b) and (c) The use of forests for various purposes including fuel, fodder and grazing beyond the carrying capacity and encroachments are the main cause of forest depletion.

(d) and (e) The Tenth Five Year Plan envisages to increase the forest and tree cover to 25% by 2007 and 33% by 2012. The Ministry of Environment and Forests have already introduced the scheme of National Afforestation programme as a 100% Centrally Sponsored Scheme. Besides, plantation activity is also undertaken by the State Government under their State schemes/other schemes.

Applications pending with RCCF

1756. SHRI S.M. LAL JAN BASHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that needs of tribals are not being efficiently met by the RCCF's office;

(b) the number of applications pending with Bangalore RCCF with regard to tribals;